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DIARY OF THE WAR

10th Jan.—The iron ring of the British Imperial Forces is now closing in on Tobruk.

Royal Air Force bombers raid enemy aerodromes in Benina and Berka causing considerable damage. Caproni workshops at Maidaga in Italian East Africa have been attacked. A large number of bombs has been observed to burst among buildings in Asmara.

Greeks capture Klissura and find it empty of inhabitants, sacked and burned. The town falls after a very hard battle lasting several days. In addition to the occupation of Klissura the Greeks have captured certain other fortified Italian positions. British Air Forces in Greece successfully attack Italian troops and mechanised convoys—all in full retreat north of Klissura and on the road to Berat. Albanian soldiers forcibly mobilised into the Italian army mutiny. The mutiny is extinguished by Italians. Majority of those who participated in the revolt succeed in escaping to the hills where they are joined by relations and other deserters. They are forming a considerable force under the leadership of an Albanian.

Troops from the Belgium Congo will shortly be taking part in the war in Africa.

A Soviet-German agreement on the Soviet-German frontier between River Igork (Lithuania) and the Baltic has been signed. The agreement fixes the Polish, German and Lithuanian frontiers. Agreement for the mutual repatriation of Germans and Russians in each other's territories also signed.

German bombers concentrate on Portsmouth. A number of people have been killed and others injured. Considerable damage has been done to houses and commercial premises. Two enemy aircraft have been destroyed.

Royal Air Force bombers attack the naval base at Brest. Protected by an escort of over a hundred fighter planes, British bombers cross the French coast in daylight and bomb aerodromes in Northern France and machine-gun aircraft on the ground in Forest De Guines near Calais. The Royal Air Force have thus struck the first blow in their great struggle with the *Luftwaffe* in 1941.

President Roosevelt's Bill to aid Democracies known as "British Aid Bill" is introduced by the Administration leaders in the United States Senate and the House of Representatives. This measure authorises appropriation of funds in such manner as may be necessary to carry out its provisions. Estimates of the eventual cost have reached 10,000 million dollars.

German dive-bombers aid Italians in Central Mediterranean in an attack on an important British convoy taking supplies to Greece. The aircraft-carrier, *H.M.S. Illustrious* and cruiser *H.M.S. Southampton* have been hit. *H. M. S. Southampton* is a total loss. In flames after being hit she had to be sunk by British forces when she could not be towed to port. Twelve enemy planes have been shot down and the convoy gets through.

11th Jan.—Preparatory activities in the Tobruk area are continuing. Operating east of Gallabat British troops carry out successful raids on Italian positions about Metemma. El-wak on the border of Kenya and Italian Somaliland has been captured by the British Gold Coast troops through the use of tanks. The British troops capture a mobile Italian bakery among other booty. The bakery "included rolls of bread and an Italian officer who was hidden in a barrel of flour". Yet another of Blackshirt Generals who absented himself just before the capture of Bardia has been "retrieved" while trying to escape on foot towards Tobruk.

Despite heavy rain the Greeks score a success west of Kukush in the direction of Elbasan where they capture the strategic point of Garvani. In the Moskopolis region Greeks capture the village of Opari.

A second batch of German police has arrived in Rome "for training at the Italian Colonial Police School."

A fresh wave of political arrests has been sweeping over France. Some forty persons have been arrested in Paris under a decree providing for the internment of persons dangerous to public security. In other parts ninety-six persons have been arrested.

Over thirty Free French warships are participating in operations. The Free French now have 80 merchantmen sailing the seas, thirty of which are manned by purely French crews.

High explosive as well as incendiary bombs have been dropped in various parts of London. A number of people have been killed or injured. Fires started by incendiary bombs have been promptly dealt with and most of them put out. Bombs dropped at places in South and South-East England. Very few of these bombs did damage and nobody was killed. A number of casualties occurred when

high explosive bombs fell on a London subway where a number of people were sheltering. One enemy bomber has been destroyed.

The Home Guard will in future be used for dealing with fire-boms at the discretion of the military commander and on the request of local authorities.

Batteries of anti-aircraft guns ranged on Italian slopes of the Alps open fire on Royal Air Force bombers going to attack the royal arsenal at Turin. The raiders, however, reach their objective one after another and bomb the railways and arsenal. Wilhelmshaven shipbuilding yard, German-occupied Dutch and Belgium coast, mole at Zeebrugge have also been attacked.

12th Jan.—Thai forces continue their advance into Cambodia. Thai bombers raid important towns in Indo-China.

Despite dfficult terrain, the Greek advance still continues.

Final agreement has been reached on the sites for the United States Naval, Army and Air bases in the Island of Trinidad. A plan to construct a series of air bases between the United States border and Alaska will shortly be announced by the Canadian Government. The bases would be built by the Canadian Government but would be available for use by the United States military planes. An agreement has been reached between the United States and Britain on sites for eight American Air and Naval bases to be constructed in British possessions in the Western Hemisphere.

There is much discontent among Rumanian leaders at General Antonescu's policy. The peasant leader Dr. Maniu has sent a protest to the Rumanian Government declaring that German troops are depriving the people of their bread and that the country is heading for a revolution.

The Bulgarian Prime Minister points out, according to a Sofia telegram, that despite Bulgarian desire for peace she might have to go through a tragic time. He adds that the question of peace or war does not depend on small countries. He also remarks that "the gigantic cataclysm caused by the speeches and decisions of President Roosevelt may provoke a world war. Bulgaria must be cautious, for it is necessary to know not only who will conquer but how victory will be achieved. It is essential that Bulgarians must be neither Germanophile nor Anglophile but only ready to sacrifice all for Bulgaria."

Bombers of the Royal Air Force and Coastal Command raid shipping and invasion bases at Channel ports, aerodromes in occupied France, and oil depots in Italy and Belgium. Brest docks, Le Havre, L'Orient, aerodromes including Varnes, Chartres, Evreaux and Morlaix have also been attacked with good results.

London appeared to be the main target of the German air-force for the second night in succession. Bombs dropped in various parts of the capital and over the Thames estuary. Other raiders were reported from Liverpool. Some people were killed and others injured.

13th Jan.—Concentration of British troops round Tobruk continues in preparation for the final assault. An Italian garrison has been trapped by the British forces at Jerabub in the interior on the Egyption-Libyan border. A British patrol has routed an Italian force in the Metemma area in Abyssinia, east of Gallabat. The Italians withdraw after slight resistance leaving forty dead and many wounded.

Italians at Tepelini, the Albanian town, are placed in a very awkward predicament as the result of a slight Greek advance north and north-west of Klissura.

The Italian Commander-in-Chief in Albania, General Soddu, has resigned. General Cabellero, Chief of the General Staff, succeeds.

Emperor Haile Selassie who is in Khartoum discloses that he recently visited the Abyssinian frontiers and met chieftains from the interior who, at the risk of their lives, went to swear fealty.

Fifteen thousand people will shortly be required to leave Vichy and the surrounding district as a result of a decree of the Vichy Government requiring all French people and foreigners who came to Vichy district after the armistice to prove to the police the necessity for their presence there.

A big air battle between Thailand and French planes has taken place. Three French machines are reported to have been brought down in flames, while one Thai plane has been lost.

A barter agreement between Russia and China has been concluded. Soviet military supplies will be supplied to the Chinese Government in exchange for tea to the value of a hundred million Chinese dollars. It also provides for the exchange of Chinese mineral products for Soviet machinery.

Four different kinds of American bombers including the Lockheed Hudson long-range bomber and the four-engined Boeing bomber are being flown to England in large numbers.

An attack was made on a town in south-west Engand. Several fires started and a number of buildings were damaged. Some people were killed and others injured. Thousands of incendiaries and high explosive bombs have been dropped on Plymouth. Two hospitals, a church and two surface shelters have been hit. It is thought that the casualties may be heavy.

Royal Air Force raid Turin, Venice and Catania. British planes drop a number of bombs in Southern Germany, Beyrought being among the places attacked. Royal Air Force attack submarine base at L'Orient.

14th Jan.—British advance in Libya. British artillery continues to pound the perimeter defences of Tobruk, preparatory to the

final onslaught on the town. General Argentina, who commanded the Italian forces at Sidi Barrani, is the latest Italian General to fall into British hands. A Rome Radio speaker in a broadcast to North America says: "We shall not deny that the British have given us hard knocks in North Africa. Our losses have been considerable, both in men and material. The British offensive was well organized and the British forces were magnificiently equipped. We are quite prepared to take off our hats to them."

A violent surprise attack by Greek troops dislodge the Italians from strongly fortified positions in the central sector of the front. Desperate efforts by the Italians to reinforce positions in the coastal sector north of Chimara have been nullified by the spirited Greek offensive. Italian planes raid a small port south of Corfu.

British troops supported by artillery carry out a strong night raid on prepared Italian positions in the Gallabat sector of the Sudan-Abyssinia front. British patrols are also continuing strong pressure against Italian positions in the Kassala sector. It is learned that the British Government is prepared to grant facilities and safe-conduct for all Italian women and children in Italian East Africa if their evacuation is agreed to by Rome.

South African warships are co-operating with the British Navy outside South African waters for the first time.

There has been no enemy air activity over the British Isles and the lull is probably accounted for by the persistent bad weather over the German bases.

The Royal Air Force did not carry out any raids over Germany owing to bad weather on the continent.

Japan's concern at the increased aid by the United States both to Great Britain and to China is shown by the Japanese Prime Minister, Prince Konoye, when he addressed Government leaders, representatives of the Diet, press, finance and industry. He said that the "present emergency" might lead to a world-wide disturbance. This disturbance was threatened by the growing pressure brought to bear upon Japan by the United States' increased aid to Britain and the Chungking regime.

Princess Hohenlohe-Waldenburg who is now in the United States is to be served immediately with a deportation warrant. The Princess has been ordered to leave the United States.

15th Jan.—Sandstorms are reported in the area round Tobruk. "Successful patrol activity on all front continues."

After the failure of two Italian counter-attacks the Greeks continue their advance in spite of a heavy snow-storm and intense cold. The Italians have withdrawn from strong natural positions north of Klissura and they are making desperate efforts to stem the Greek drive.

A French attempt to invade Siam is repulsed with heavy losses. The large number of French Indo-Chinese troops killed included one officer of French nationality. No casualties are said to have been suffered on the Thai side. The Thai Deputy Foreign Minister has been asked by the French Charge d'Affaires, M. Garreaux, for a "cease fire" order to be given, according to the Bangkok wireless. There have been a series of conferences between the two men but with no result so far.

It is reported that General Antonescu will arrive in Salzburg on Thursday from Rumania and meet Herr von Ribbentrop, the German Foreign Minister.

The French steamer *Mendoza* has failed in her third attempt to run the British blockade. The *Mendoza* sailed out of Montevideo harbour on 14th but has returned to Uruguayan waters as she was intercepted by a British warship.

There has been little air activity over London during daylight. Bombs were dropped in one area in Kent but little damage and no casualties have been reported. The whole of Great Britain had the night entirely free from air raids.

A small number of aircraft of the Coastal Command attack air bases at Mandal and Forus in Norway.

Forty-five thousand Germans in Lithuania and 12,000 in Estonia and Latvia who did not leave in the autumn of 1939 will, it is reported, return to the Reich under the German-Soviet territorial agreement.

Sicily is occupied by German troops, Air Force men and technicians. It is reported that Italy has made a request for German aid and the price to be paid appears so far in Northern Italy as Trieste.

Despite continued snow and cold the Greeks have registered several more successes in local actions. In the central sector the Greeks take by surprise a fortified height capturing numerous machine-guns, mortar, etc.

Royal Air Force make a concentrated and highly successful attack on the naval base in Wilhelmshaven. The harbour at Brest, docks at Emden, Bremerhaven, Rotterdam and Flushing have also been bombed as well as aerodromes and other targets in north-west Germany and Holland. One British aircraft is missing. British planes bomb Catania on the eastern shore of Sicily.

16th Jan.—The sandstorm in Libya has subsided and the attack on Tobruk is expected to increase in intensity.

Royal Air Force planes drop thousands of leaflets over Abyssinia containing Haile Selassie's proclamation that he would personally lead the Patriot Abyssinian Army to victory.

An insurrectionary movement in Albania is centred mainly in the district between Berat and Elbasan but is spreading both north and south.

There was very little enemy air activity over England during daylight but during night a fire-raising attack was made on London. Incendiaries were showered in several areas, but the firemen easily controlled all the fires which were quickly put out. There were also two raids on Midland areas and high explosive bombs were dropped in widely scattered areas. Casualties were very few and the damage throughout the country was not very extensive. Two German aircraft were destroyed.

Royal Air Force is now engaged in the task of pushing back the air frontier. This is the meaning of daylight bombing operations which British aircraft have been undertaking in the last few days.

Great Britain is now getting 90 per cent of American production of fighter planes.

British submarine *Pandora* has sunk two Italian supply ships each of about 5,000 tons in the Central Mediterranean.

Reports are coming in that Germans are entering Bulgaria in hundreds as tourists and commercial travellers.

Greatest uneasiness is felt in Rumania at the increasing arrivals of fresh German troops which are now estimated to total 12 divisions. The troops are in four main groups, one in Moldavia opposite the Soviet frontier, the second in the region of Bucharest and Pleosti guarding the oil zone, the third apparently reserved in Banat and the fourth group along the line of the Danube opposite Bulgaria.

The number of German soldiers now in Holland is much bigger than even the most extensive army of occupation would justify. A great number have been stationed in the coastal districts which have been declared defence areas.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 7th January 1941:—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 1, Wednesday.	R.A.F. night raids on Bremen (Naval base, Atlas and other naval ship and submarine building yards, Deutsche vacuum oil refineries, Focke-Wulff air-frame works and other factories, Gerbruder-Nielsen rice and starch mills, railway stations and yards); submarine bases in occupied territory; invasion bases, including Flushing, Ostend, Brest.	Nil.	..
January 2, Thursday.	R.A.F. night raids on Bremen (Naval base, ship-building yards, railways); oil plant at Emden and Amsterdam; Channel invasion bases, including Calais and Boulogne.	1	..
January 3, Friday.	R.A.F. night raids on Bremen (Naval base, ship-building yards, factories, warehouses, railways); other targets in Germany and occupied territory.	1	..
January 4, Saturday.	R. A. F. day attacks on shipping off Lister and Onrestad (Norway); naval base at Brest. R.A.F. night raid on Hamburg.	1	..
January 5, Sunday.	R.A.F. day raid on Brest (Naval base, aerodrome). Night raids cancelled owing to weather.	Nil.	1
January 6, Monday.	R.A.F. day attacks on shipping off Norway and Holland. Night raids cancelled owing to weather.	Nil.	
January 7, Tuesday.	Bombing operations cancelled owing to weather ..	..	..

The following are the figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 7th January 1941:—

Date.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
January 1	..	..
January 2	..	..
January 3	..	1
January 4	1	2
January 5	..	..
January 6	..	..
January 7	..	1

TALKING POINTS

THE LEASE AND LEND BILL.

The "Lease and Lend Bill" has already been started on its career through the United States Congress and informed opinion expects its successful emergence in about a month. Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, who was the first witness before the Committee examining the Bill, was as vehement and thorough-going as the President in his denunciation of the Axis Powers, who, he said, were determined to destroy the foundation of civilization by armed conquest, by subjugation of weaker peoples and by tyrannical rule over them. America's clear duty both to herself and to humanity was therefore, he pointed out, to provide all necessary things with the help of which Great Britain could successfully wage the war on which she was engaged. In the speediest possible manner, he said, these things will be done and overwhelming speed, he urged, was their greatest need to-day.

Even Mr. Henry Ford is now for quick help to Great Britain. The gradual emancipation of America's opinion from the bondage of isolationism has been due to the appreciation of the fact that Great Britain was engaged in the struggle not for herself alone but for Democracy all the world over. If the United States, which is in a position of apparent security 3,000 miles away from bombs and Gestapo agents and in the enjoyment of remarkable prosperity, feels with regard to war, as it does to-day, then it is obvious that other nations and other peoples who may be far away from the scene of the present conflict should similarly have a correct and sympathetic understanding of the moral issues at stake.

It is well to remember that the American plan for lending Democracies arms, ships and other requirements to be returned or replaced, is progressing so satisfactorily because it keeps aloof from the difficult problems involved in dollar loans and debts which isolationists would very much like to be raised in order to delay America's help to Great Britain. The essence of this scheme is that American manufacturers would be paid in dollars, that the question of Great Britain's indebtedness would not arise until she has either consumed or damaged materials given to her and that this indebtedness would be ultimately cleared by deliveries in kind, not in cash. In order to speed up such assistance, it has been definitely laid down in the Bill that the rate of allocation of America's production to Britain would be determined by executive and not by legislative decision. Of course, if necessity arose England might well secure all that America may produce, including naval units.

JAPAN AND THE NEW ORDER.

Mr. Cordell Hull was no less severe in regard to his indictment of Japanese policy. The so-called New Order in the Pacific, he said, meant the domination by one country to the exclusion of the interests of other nations. The New Order, he pointed out would further lead economically to the impoverishment of the invaded parts of the Orient and socially to the destruction of personal liberties and reduction of the conquered peoples to the role of inferiors. Japan has been told by the United States, Mr. Hull continued, that her best interests lay in maintaining friendly relations with America but she has sought to ally herself with the Axis Powers. Until this alliance was contracted America desisted from taking any definite action. But now that Japan has well nigh shot her bolt, the United States wished to be on the aggressive because, in the face of the threat of the New Order in the East, appeasement was not the policy, but aggression by strong action. American opinion, therefore, is veering round to the view that the cutting off of the supply of scrap iron to Japan and giving financial aid to China should be followed by placing an embargo on all shipments of oil to Japan. American newspapers point out that the future of the Far East was really being determined in the British Isles and not in the China Sea and that, if Great Britain came through, the Japanese menace can be laid automatically, and then Japan would have no choice but to accept a negotiated settlement upon all questions, including China.

But Japan is now truculent. She professes to think that America's help to Great Britain and to China should be countered by herself building the largest fleet in the world and by organizing the largest army ready for two or three-front war, according to a newspaper. The Japanese League for the Emancipation of South-Eastern Asiatic Nations, we are told, is engaged in the emancipation of five hundred million people from their white conquerors, and among those people are those in Malay, Burma, India and the Philippines. It is, therefore, absolutely clear that Japan wishes to conquer Eastern Asia for herself; but what are the prospects? The China affair is still going on even after three years' of heavy losses for Japan in men, money, material and prestige. The Soviet continues to help China and the Soviet-Japanese relations have not yet improved. She has, of course, got a stranglehold of Indo-China and is egging on Thailand to become a nuisance to the French authorities. But the Japanese Government, now really controlled by war Lords, is indulging in threats. Any further disturbance of the *status quo* in the Netherlands or in the Philippines or further East or South will be immediately followed by action on the part of America and Great Britain, if not also by Russia.

One often hears from Japanese sources of her intention to be on friendly terms with Great Britain and America, of her desire to

have friendly relations with Australia, of her intentions to trade more largely with India. One does not know what value to attach to these statements and whether they are the repetition of the Nazi technique of lulling other nations into a sense of false security. One can only hope that it is not so.

ITALY, THE NEXT VICTIM OF GERMANY.

The first engagement of the Luftwaffe with British forces occurred a few days ago in the Central Mediterranean when German dive bombers attacked a convoy of vessels taking important war materials to Greece. As a result of this action the British aircraft carrier "Illustrious" was hit and somewhat damaged, but it reached its base after a magnificent engagement. Great Britain has lost the cruiser "Southampton"; but German aircraft lost heavily. More of such actions may perhaps be expected. But very little improvement in the general offensive power of Italy need be expected from this development. Germany is not yet war with Greece and German bombers, unless war is declared, are not yet likely to go to Albania in support of Italy. For that would set the Balkans ablaze and Turkey will not remain silent. The Italian position in Lybia is already hopeless, and German aircraft would have to depend for fuel and spare parts on the sea route from Italy which is not free from danger. But Mussolini's S. O. S. to Germany has, of course, had a most disastrous effect on its prestige. It has brought her down in the estimation of the world and Italians are not likely to welcome the Nazi's penetration in view of the experience which other countries have had of such infiltration. Is this the beginning of the enslavement of Italy, Italians may well ask themselves. Hitler, of course, has welcomed this call for help on the part of Mussolini. He first tried to secure the help of the French navy. The battleship of "Strasbourg", and the cruisers, "Galisonniere", "Jean de Yienne" and "Marseillaise," are in Toulon. Torpedo boats and submarines are at Casablanca. "Richelieu" and the cruisers and the destroyers sent to reinforce it against General De Gaulle's landing are at Dakar. Oran still harbours the "Dunkerque" which is apparently being repaired. If Hitler had been successful in this attempt, Britain's control of the Mediterranean would have been endangered. Hence Nazi's help to Italy can be construed to be a measure both of Hitler's diplomatic failure in France and his conviction that, without help in the air, Italy would be lost. The political effect of this latest move on the part of Germany may very likely be the practical reduction of Italy to the status of a conquered country. Many Germans are now to be found in various Italian organizations, including factories, and control is being secured in various ways. If, as is likely to happen; the political control of Gemany is strengthend, then a situation would arise when Italians would be compelled to adopt the same policy of sabotage and underground activities and other manifestations of ill-will and hatred towards Nazis which are the conspicuous features of the conquered countries in Europe to-day.

SURFACE-RAIDERS.

If the Royal Navy, it may be asked, is vigilant, then why should one hear of the activities of Germany's surface-raiders? The answer is simple. No navy, however large and powerful, could possibly hope to keep under observation the immense stretches of open sea. There are besides thousands of miles of neutral coastal waters in which the German raiders may find a refuge though temporarily. Regular units of the enemy have been driven out of the high seas. But high-speed warships and converted merchantmen carry on naval warfare, and their exploits, in which they exhibit humanity and sportsmanship, gain notoriety from the very infrequency with which they occur. Germany had taken care to distribute, at the outbreak of the war, many commerce-raiders in the guise of merchant ships and a few raiders in neutral ports all over the world. One of the pocket-battleships, "Admiral Graf Spee," has been accounted for and the other two, "Deutschland" and "Admiral Von Scheer" have made their appearance here and there and have often changed their appearance so that it has not been possible to identify them. These ships do slip through blockade because it is clearly a most difficult task for the British Navy to patrol every square mile of the Atlantic or the North Sea; especially in winter is this operation very difficult and there is the additional handicap felt by Great Britain by the loss of the French Fleet. Further, there is in the Far East a maritime country allied to Germany which is capable of assisting the Nazi-raiders operating in the Pacific. The fact, however, that these commerce-raiders cannot exist without fuel and ammunition and food, must tell in the end against any large operations on their part, and one by one they will find their grave.

RESCUED AFTER SEVENTEEN HOURS

A graphic description has been given of a driver named Jack Reaves, aged 32, being rescued from a car in the basement of a West End garage after 17 hours of continuous efforts to rescue him :—

> "The car was buried in a pile of broken bricks and iron girders 20 feet high. Reaves did not know that his wife, who was sitting next to him, had been killed. They were married two months ago. Jacks, levers, and pick-axes and ropes were used by the rescue workers, who ignored the successive air raid alarms throughout the day. At one stage a nurse was able to reach Reaves and dress his wounds, and he was fed with a tube. Eventually steel girders were pulled away by hoists, a stretcher was lowered, four men crawled with it to the car, and the stretcher was hauled up on planks."

BATTLE OF THE BOMBERS

DAMAGE AND DEFENCE.

For eight months the Royal Air Force has been systematically bombing military and industrial targets in Germany and Nazi-occupied territories. Last August the *Luftwaffe's* sporadic attempts to attack Britain developed into a Blitz from newly acquired bases. Despite tremendous losses the *Luftwaffe* is still numerically stronger than the Royal Air Force and it enjoys the advantage of shorter range.

Why are the words of the *New York Herald Tribune*, written on August 17, 1940, still true :—that the Nazis "have launched an overwhelming attack and it has failed utterly to overwhelm"?

Why is the Royal Air Force's "master-plan" of bombing over Germany achieving steady results?

German Bombers.

1. **In one of the air battles of Britain a Spitfire pilot found German bombers in the stratosphere at a height of 37,000 feet—8,000 feet higher than the summit of Mt. Everest.** To escape the anti-aircraft barrage the Nazis customarily fly and bomb at great heights "by the clock", *i.e.*, with a given direction and speed to bring them somewhere near a map-square in which their target is supposed to lie.

2. **The German air force is less highly trained than the Royal Air Force and has been produced primarily for co-operation with land-forces in** *Blitzkrieg*.

3. **The German offensive has been a series of attempted knock-out blows, interspersed with hit-and-run raids.** When one intended prelude to invasion failed (the day-attacks on ports and aerodromes) they tried another (mass daylight raids on London). When that failed they again changed their tactics to indiscriminate night-raids on London and other big towns designed to wear down civilian morale and affect incidental damage to targets in the area.

4. **Not more than half-a-dozen times under eight months bombing have the Nazis admitted even slight damage to military or industrial objectives.** Last summer the American Warren Irving described the restrictions on neutral journalists in Germany. "Those who play the game are sure of being rewarded, but those who don't are equally sure of being disciplined . . . . We had to submit our scripts to three separate censorships". Since then the Nazis have expressly forbidden neutral journalists to make any reference to military or industrial damage.

Watch the British bombing-plans as revealed by changing targets to see how effective the raids must be.

British Bombers.

1. **The bombing of the Dortmund-Ems Canal last autumn was carried out at lower than 1,000 feet. A common height for British attacks is 2,000 feet.** Before every raid the crew is "briefed" with full information of a precise military objective. Exact large-scale models assist identification, and the pilots fly "by the clock" only on the first part of their journey. High-quality construction and good piloting enable Royal Air Force bombers to face the enemy Air Attack which is concentrated rather than scientifically laid.

2. **The Royal Air Force had months of valuable training over enemy territory in reconnaissance and leaflet raids during the first part of the war.**

3. **The British offensive is based upon a well worked out plan from which there has never been any deviation—night bombing of selected objectives by unaccompanied bombers at ranges up to 600 miles.** When the Royal Air Force's disorganization of rail-communication over the enemy's extended lines led to the transfer of traffic to waterways, the canal-system was attacked at vital points. When the damage to Hamm marshalling-yards had been partly repaired, it was visited again. When Hamburg docks had been put out of action they were left alone for a period. A certain secretly built and specially camouflaged ammunition factory was bombed by the Royal Air Force exactly three hours after it had started work.

4. **Neutral witnesses say: "British reports are about as correct as it is possible to make them"** (*James MacDonald in the New York Times*). **"The fact is that the Royal Air Force. . . . . . reports are not only as accurate as man can make them, but understate the advantage the British are gaining over the Germans".** (*W. R. Knickerbocker, Hearst Press.*) British communiqués report damage when it occurs, omitting only details which would assist the enemy. A neutral correspondent recently reported that less than one per cent of Britain's industrial output had been adversely affected by bombing.

Watch the supply of war material to distant fronts such as the Western Desert to see how ineffective German raids must be.

ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN

HITLER'S TECHNIQUE DESCRIBED.

The great weapon in the hands of Hitler throughout his career has been to discover the weak points existing within the communities he desires to disintegrate and then carry on intensive propaganda among the different sections of the communities and then destroy them. He followed this tactics in regard to his own country when the people had become desperate and hopeless owing to the economic depression and the failure of the super-imposed democracy to adjust itself to new conditions; his aim being to completely disintegrate the unity of the country and then attack it. That explains France's failure and Hitler's success in applying to France the lessons which he had learnt in his own country.

A few days ago he talked to German workers in right socialist style promising them many things after the war. This created serious discontent among German industrial magnates who regarded Hitler's speech to workers as being dangerously radical. He had to pacify these industrialists and without any hesitation he told them that if he were somewhat liberal in his promises it was because war exigencies required him to talk to German workers in that strain. He assured them at the same time that the masses would be properly dealt with after the war. The factory workers could not possibly have been gratified at this change of front. What steps Hitler is taking to re-pacify the workers is not known yet, but it may be fairly guessed that he would follow the same technique. Writing about the working of this well-known method of Hitler, Mr. Francis Williams writes in his recent book "War by Revolution":—

"He set himself to increase and exploit the fear of Communism which had been the reaction of the rich and industrially powerful to the economic crisis, and persuade them that revolution was imminent and that the only bulwark against it was National Socialism which would curb the power of organized labour and destroy Bolshevism. At the same time he exploited the anger and anxiety of the unemployed workers by preaching that Germany had been betrayed by international finance and by the great commercial combines for their own purposes. He promised that National Socialism would give freedom and security to the common people; he told the small shopkeeper and the business men that they were being ruined by a conspiracy of the great monopolies to crush them and promised them that National Socialism would destroy the Trusts and give them security. He told the middle-classes that they were being ruined by international Jewry which worked at one and the same time to crush them from above by a conspiracy of international finance and to destroy them from below by a conspiracy of international Communism and that National Socialism would guard them against both. To the women of Germany he promised husbands and homes security; to the army a vast programme of war which would re-establish the ascendency of the Reichswehr; to the disillusioned companies of youth he offered the double spur of a great crusade for the spiritual regeneration of Germany and the chance of revenging themselves upon their public and private enemies in a chartered campaign of terrorism; to the great capitalists and landowners he promised a return to the economic feudalism which had existed in Germany before the Republic; to the peasants a state programme of land development in their interests; to the socialists national control of industry and social reform.

"That each new promise contradicted almost every other did not matter, for he was not concerned with obtaining support for a rational programme. He was concerned to appeal to the sub-rational desires and fears and self-deceptions of all classes and groups, to set the hand of each against the others, to sow disunity, to work for that moment of anarchy when confidence in all established government would go and his own intervention would be possible.

"Moreover, he knew that each group to which he made promises could be persuaded to believe that the promises made to them were alone genuine and that the contradictory ones were merely to deceive their enemies.

"France was hopelessly divided before the war and the Nazi political propaganda found in such fissiparous tendency plenty of opportunity to still further divide French men against themselves. In this work he had been greatly assisted by Nazi agents who had been kept busy for years in discovering people among all classes and communities whose needs could be greased for betraying their country."

HITLER'S LITTLE BILL

A correspondent, writing to a London paper, draws a very interesting comparison between the demands now being made by Hitler on France and the claim for reparations made on Germany by France after the Great War:—

"The Germans are asking for 20,000,000 marks a day, not as the peace terms, but for the costs of maintenance of their army of occupation. As it stands at present it means an annual payment of 7,300,000,000

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MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

New Year Wishes.

The Fuehrer has addressed a 3,000-word New Year message to the German people. It is largely a repetition of the old thread-bare arguments in favour of the continuation—with the assumed approval of the Almighty—of the war against the greedy, plutocratic capitalists of the hypocritical democracies. Hitler paints himself as the Great Peacemaker resorting to war only to safeguard the menaced existence of the German people. In Hitler's early days, Communism was the big bad wolf; now British capitalism fills the role. Without a villain there could be no hero, and Hitler is desperately anxious to appear as the hero.

Let us examine some of his statements as he dips into history.

Pre-War Disarmament.

" Every attempt to bring about restriction of armament was rejected with disdain by these criminal elements of the capitalist democracies."

An international disarmament conference met at Geneva in 1932. On March 16, 1933, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, then British Prime Minister, presented to the conference a draft-convention of 96 articles, providing for a substantial measure of disarmament over a period of 8 years. The plan was unanimously adopted on June 8, 1933. It would have given Germany parity with the other Powers by 1941. But Germany was determined to re-arm and left the Conference on October 14, 1933.

No Claims.

" My attempt to avoid the outbreak of war with England and France in 1939 was not only coldly rejected by the entire democratic world, but also evoked a storm of indignation . . . . Germany made no claims on England or France, and this was entirely unnecessary."

Hitler could have avoided war by keeping his troops outside Poland. That he knew the risk he was taking is proved by his pact with Russia a week before he began the invasion of Poland. The only reason no claims were made on France or England was that Hitler was not yet ready to make them.

Peace Offensive.

" On October 6, 1939, I invited France and England to lay down arms. This attempt proved futile."

Since Germany refused to withdraw from Poland, Britain and France were bound both in honour and in self-defence to continue the fight.

Fall of France.

" The first units which retired from the struggle were British divisions. They were animated by one desire—to evacuate the Continent under cover of Dutch, Belgian and French troops."

If their one desire was to evacuate the Continent, why were British troops shipped to France at all? When the B. E. F. was evacuated from Dunkirk, Dutch troops had ceased to offer resistance, King Leopold of the Belgians had capitulated and French troops were defending another section of the Front.

The " Fundamental Anglo-German Struggle."

" Immediately after the termination of the campaign in Western Europe, I expressed to Great Britain my desire to terminate this senseless war. A wave of indignation and fury seized the capitalist war profiteers of all democracies."

That wave of indignation, or rather, determination to carry on to the end, was not confined to the " capitalist war profiteers," nor to any particular class of people.

Threat to Friends of Britain.

" It is our inexorable determination that a Day of Judgment shall be held to secure for Europe internal peace. Whatever may happen, Germany will adopt all measures necessary

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HITLER'S LITTLE BILL

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marks. It may be recalled that the decision made at Versailles in 1921 was that reparations should start at 2,000,000,000 marks a year, and rise in 11 years to 6,000,000,000. That maximum it will be noted is 1,300,000,000 marks less than the present demand. But under the Dawes scheme in 1924 reparations were reduced to 1,000,000,000 marks yearly, rising after four years to 2,500,000,000. The total sum Germany paid as reparation was 17,000,000,000 marks, and she succeeded in borrowing 27,000,000,000 from the Allies, thus remaining 10,000,000,000 marks to the good.

The value of German exports in 1913 was roughly 10,000,000,000 marks and of French exports in 1938 was 1,530,000,000. The population of Germany (1919 census) was 58,000,000 and of France (1939) 42,000,000. Presumably payment will have to be effected by unoccupied France, whose productive capacity is only a small fraction of that of former France.

Statistics show that the yield from taxation of unoccupied France in 1934 was less than 20 per cent of the yield from the whole country. It may therefore be reckoned that a territory with one-thirtieth of the paying power of 1913 Germany is being called upon on pay three times the maximum annuity fixed (but not actually paid) under the Dawes scheme."

for the achievement of this aim. Every power which has anything to do with the democracies will be the victims of these relations."

Apart from the fact that it is for the Almighty, and not Hitler, to determine when (and on whom). Days of Judgment shall be held, threats of this type have long been part of the Nazi technique, but the free world refuses to be bullied. The Axis Pact with Japan did not deter America from continuing her aid to Britain. Greece has taken her stand against the Axis and Turkey is ready.

Axis Partner.

" Since the beginning of June, Fascist Italy has been fighting on our side. The conception of the war-mongers that they can influence the result of this struggle by isolated operations is childish."

Axis propaganda has repeatedly boosted the part played by Graziani in " binding " the " cream " of the British Imperial Forces in Egypt. The " isolated operation " in the Western Desert, carried to a successful conclusion, would release these troops for the final drive against the real enemy. The success of the " isolated operation " in Albania has provided Britain once more with a foothold on the Continent.

Agreed!

" In this war, not good fortune, but justice, is going to triumph. Justice is on the side of those peoples who are fighting to safeguard their menaced existence. This struggle will encourage them to the greatest and most unheard of efforts in world history."

We agree. The soldiers, sailors and airmen of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium and France who escaped from Nazi tyranny are fighting side by side with the British Empire to safeguard their menaced existence and re-establish their independence.

Italy's " Living Space."

The German radio reports (January 2nd) a speech made in Florence by the Italian Education Minister, Signor Pavolini, who said " the 100-years-long struggle of the Italian people for sufficient living-space must now be crowned with success," and concluded that the present war was the " only logical conclusion " of Fascist achievements.

When Italy entered the war, her Empire comprised 2·8 per cent of the area of the world and only 2·5 per cent of the world's population. In other words, she had more than her share of living space.

In an article on *Lebensraum*, published in January 1939, Professor Obet, of the German University of Breslau, described the living-space of the Italian Empire as " more than sufficient."

Mussolini himself, on the 5th of May 1936, declared that, with the settlement of the Abyssinian question, Italy joined the ranks of the satisfied nations. She has, however, left those ranks since.

Italian forces, seeking more living-space tried to invade Egypt, which is already over-populated, with 0·7 per cent of the world-area and 0·8 per cent of the world-population.

Spain and Tangier

The Nazi radio (January 2nd) twists Senor Suner's statement on the Tangier situation to make it appear that Spain's action was not dictated by Axis threats. Berlin reports Senor Suner as having said, " The Powers who fought on the side of Spain in the War of Liberation had fully recognized that Spain was entitled to Tangier."

In actual fact, the Spanish Foreign Minister said that the difficult situation caused in Tangier at the outbreak of war was aggravated by Italy's entry. " This critical and very dangerous moment required immediate action on Spain's part."

So it becomes evident that at least one of Spain's motives in taking over control of Tangier was to prevent the Italian fleet from using it as a base.

Naval Occasions

Reviewing naval warfare during 1940, the German Supreme Command (quoted by the Berlin radio on January 3rd), says :—

" Wherever the enemy tried to put an end to the activities of German warships he was engaged and was often obliged to leave the scene of these encounters, apparently battered and with heavy losses, in order to seek refuge in the nearest port."

The only British warship to withdraw into a neutral port for repairs after an encounter with the enemy was the armed liner *Carnarvon Castle*, which last month entered Montevideo harbour after putting to flight a more heavily-armed Nazi raider. Unlike the *Graf Spee*, the *Carnarvon Castle* sailed again—well within the 72-hour limit allotted her by the Uruguayan Government. The *Rawalpindi* and the *Jervis Bay*, both of which went down with guns blazing and colours flying in the face of overwhelming odds, were other examples of British auxiliary warships which took part in " these encounters."

Without Comment

" Italian submarine commanders and crews are sharing the same risks as their German comrades in the Atlantic, because, since the Italian Fleet has made the Mediterranean prohibited to British shipping, we do not need so many submarines in that sea."

—*Rome Radio, January 3rd.*

Berlin radio reports (December 31) a collision between a British cargo steamer and two Italian steamers at the entrance to Buenos Aires harbour. "The harbour authorities," we are told, " suspect foul play and eye-witnesses have declared that they were greatly surprised when they saw the English steamer making straight for the Italian vessels."